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"Korea May Blow Up" Warning MUST BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE

W. Europe Union Prospects

Brussels, Feb. 19.—M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Belgian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, today told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies that a Western European Conference could be expected shortly; it was reliably learned here.

His disclosure came as the Belgian Foreign Office announced officially that in Brussels, the Hague and Luxembourg, British and French envoys had exchanged with the governments to which they were accredited memoranda on the "Bevin Plan" for closer co-operation in Western Europe.

Mr Spaak told the deputies that Mr Ernest Bevin's speech in the House of Commons last month was "a milestone in Britain's history" because it showed Britain was now "aware that she is European."

The three Benelux countries—Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg—asked for a continuance of the talks with Britain and France, during which they intend to be represented by one joint single delegation," he said.

An agreement for a Western Union did not close the door to the possibility of a future agreement with Eastern Europe, he added.—Reuter.

BANDITS SLAY FOUR MEN

Manila, Feb. 19.—A gang of bandits killed in cold blood the police chief of the Nueva Ecija town of Munoz, two Philippine Army soldiers and a Philippine Scout after holding up a fleet of 25 passenger buses and freight trucks at the village of Lomboy last night, a correspondent of the Manila Evening News reported this afternoon.

There were more than 100 victims of the nocturnal marauders while the loot was preliminarily estimated at several thousand dollars in each and every case.

Thus far, there is no official confirmation of the daring and bloody mass holdup from the constabulary authorities, though the latter are understood to be investigating the report.—Reuter.

1,000 MPH PLANE

Washington, Feb. 19.—A Douglas Skyrocket needle-nosed jet and research plane, designed to reach 1,000 miles per hour, has successfully completed its first flight tests at Muroc, California, the United States Navy disclosed today.

The plane was flown at relatively low speeds on the test flights but has been built to study flight problems at speeds near that of sound—650 to 750 miles per hour.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Public Playgrounds

HONGKONG citizens have always been miserably neglected in the matter of public parks and playing grounds, and in certain respects the position is worse today than ever. On the island the only area within easy distance of the city, where people can stroll or sit down amid pleasant surroundings, is the Botanical Gardens. Kowloon residents are denied even this restricted amenity. For relief from the congested streets they must hike into the hills. In the same way public playing grounds are at a premium on both sides of the harbour. In Hongkong, Happy Valley, Sookunpo and Causeway Bay have been neatly, but decisively parcelled off for private clubs, and in Kowloon the same has happened with King's Park. The children are woefully forgotten when it comes to providing spaces in which they can play in safety. Before the war there were three such playing grounds in Chatham Road and Cox's Path and they served a useful purpose. The sites remain, but there are no facilities for the children—no swings, no see-saws, no "giant strides," no sandpits; just waste pieces of ground. Surely it is not asking too much for these areas to

IMAM WAS MURDERED

Cairo, Feb. 19.—The 85-year-old Imam of Yemen, yesterday reported to have died, was assassinated with three of his sons and the Prime Minister, reports here tonight said.

The Arab League Council tonight examined the situation in the Yemen as conflicting reports of developments there reached Cairo.

Earlier today, the League decided to send a commission to Sanaa, capital of the Yemen, to clarify the situation.

The Imam's death was reported last month, but later denied by his representative in Cairo, who protested to the Egyptian Government.

Yesterday, the Arab League received a cable from the Imam's counsellor, El Sayed El Rabat, announcing the ruler's death.

Tonight, another cable was received from Al Wazir, the new Imam, confirming the former Imam, Yahya's, death and announcing his succession to the throne.—Reuter.

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An agreement for a Western Union did not close the door to the possibility of a future agreement with Eastern Europe, he added.—Reuter.

Truman Launches His Presidential Campaign

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Truman, in a speech tonight formally launching his campaign for the Presidential election next November, laid down a 10-year programme for the expansion of agricultural output, for an increase of employment and for higher minimum wages.

He declared: "It can be done—it will be done". President Truman blamed the Republican Party for the "worst depression in history", which he said, brought "agriculture to ruin, business to collapse and labour to despair".

The President gave his speech before nearly 1,000 Democratic Party leaders from every state in the nation, in celebration of "Jackson Day".

President Truman declared: "The party of progressive liberalism in the United States, the party that carried the traditions of Jefferson and Jackson, the party that has four times in succession received the people's mandate, is the Democratic Party.

YEAR OF CHALLENGE

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Truman tonight invited all "progressive liberals," regardless of past political affiliations, to vote on the Democratic ticket in November, as against the "forces of conservatism."

"The people will again decide whether they want the forces of conservatism in office, or whether, in these challenging times, they want to entrust their government to those forces of conservatism which believe in the benefit of the few at the expense of many."

President Truman's action in stressing the liberal aspects of the Democratic Party was a clear ap-

Report Made To UN

Lake Success, Feb. 19.—The chairman of the United Nations Korean Commission today warned the Little Assembly—which is boycotted by Russia—that Korea might "blow up" and set off a "vaster cataclysm in Asia and the world" if its people's hopes of gaining independence through the United Nations were shattered.

Mr K. P. S. Menon of India, emphasising that the Soviet authorities controlling the Northern Korean Zone had kept the Commission from organising nationwide elections, told the 51-nation interim group that for years "the Korean people have been hankering for their independence and will not brook any further delay in its consummation."

Mr Menon said his Commission had been forced to return to Lake Success to ask advice on how to proceed in face of the adamant Soviet refusal to comply with Assembly recommendations that national Korean elections be held by March 31 as a prelude to independence.

The chairman departed from the prepared text to question recent reports of a new provisional government set up in Russian-occupied Northern Korea for the purpose of wrecking United Nations efforts at establishing a national Korean government.

READY FOR INDEPENDENCE

He said he had checked with United Nations officials at Seoul and, according to them there had been no doubt of his target when he declared: "One might have supposed that those who dictated policy for 21 years after the first World War would have followed economic measures beneficial to the rest and continuing welfare of industry."

In insisting that "concentrated wealth and power must be held in check," President Truman said the 1939 depression had taught the grim lesson that "a government run for the benefit of the few will inevitably destroy all"—Reuter.

BOLD INVITATION

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President Truman's action in stressing the liberal aspects of the Democratic Party was a clear ap-

peal to those voters who may have joined the ranks of Mr Henry Wallace, though he made no mention of the former Vice-President.

Nor had the President used the word "Republican" though there was no doubt of his target when he declared: "One might have supposed that those who dictated policy for 21 years after the first World War would have followed economic measures beneficial to the rest and continuing welfare of industry."

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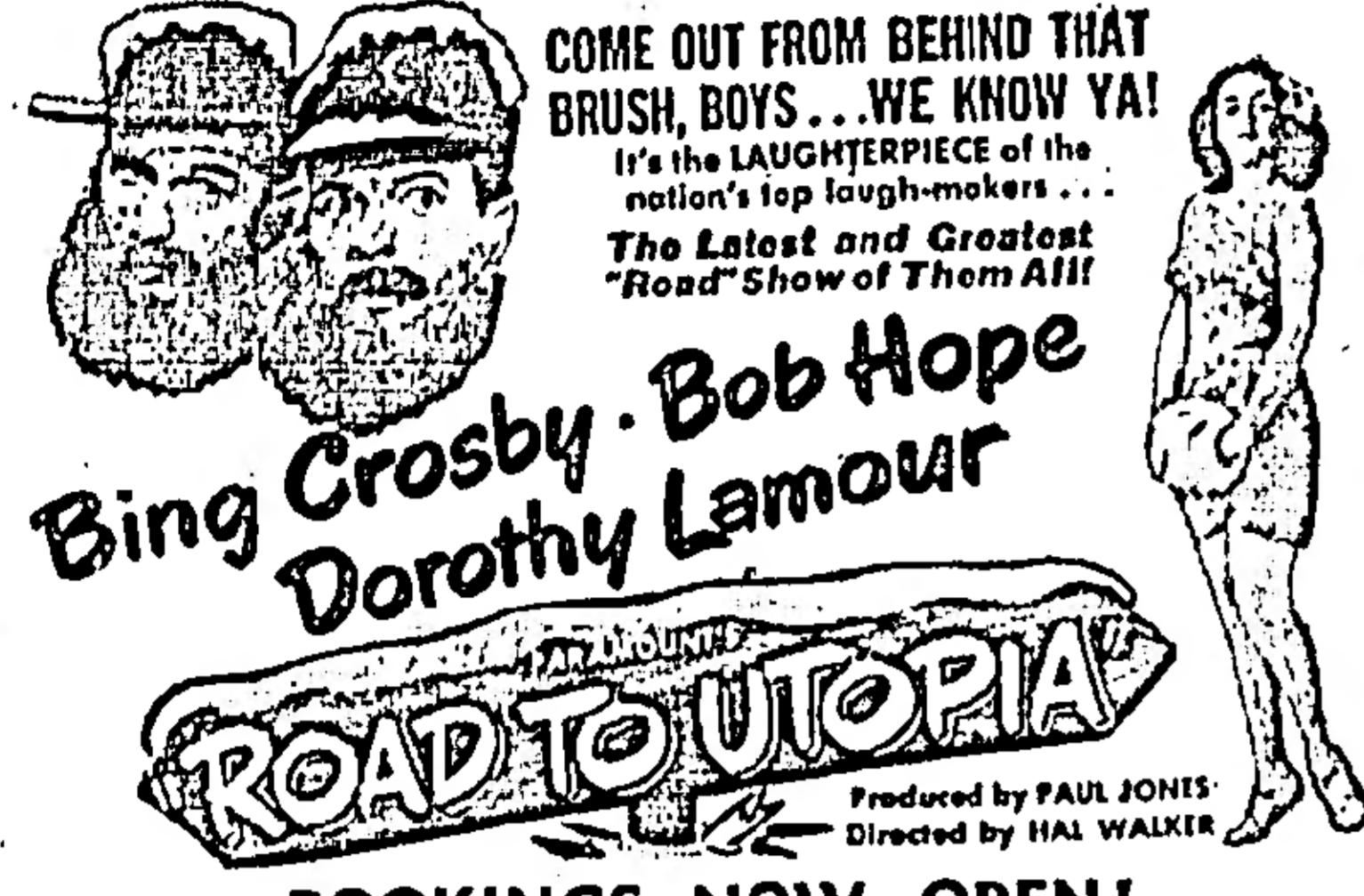
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TO-DAY
ONLY**KING'S**AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

TO-MORROW

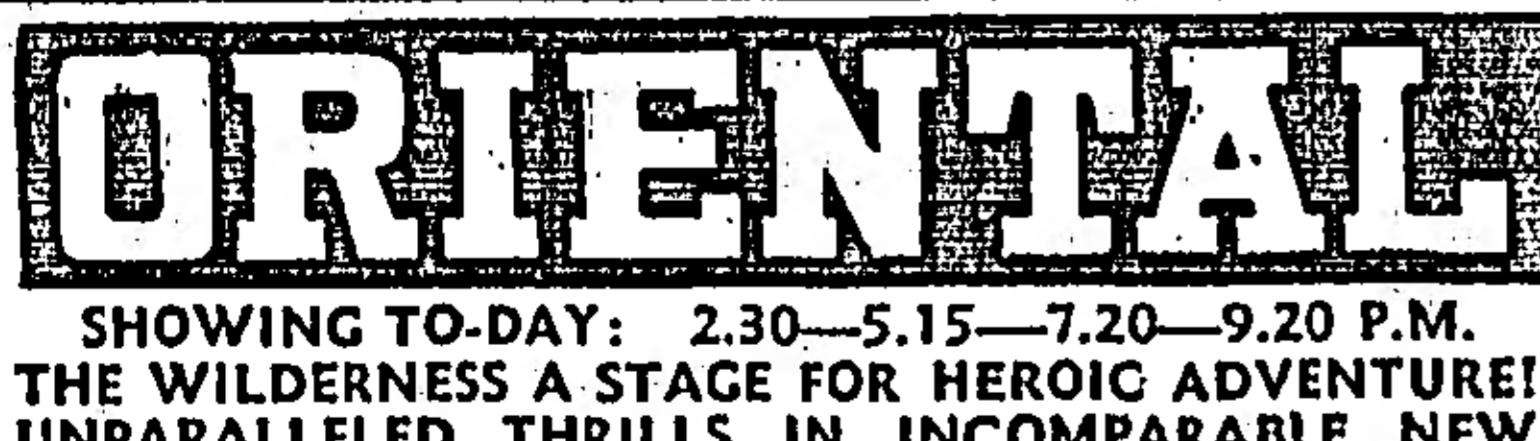
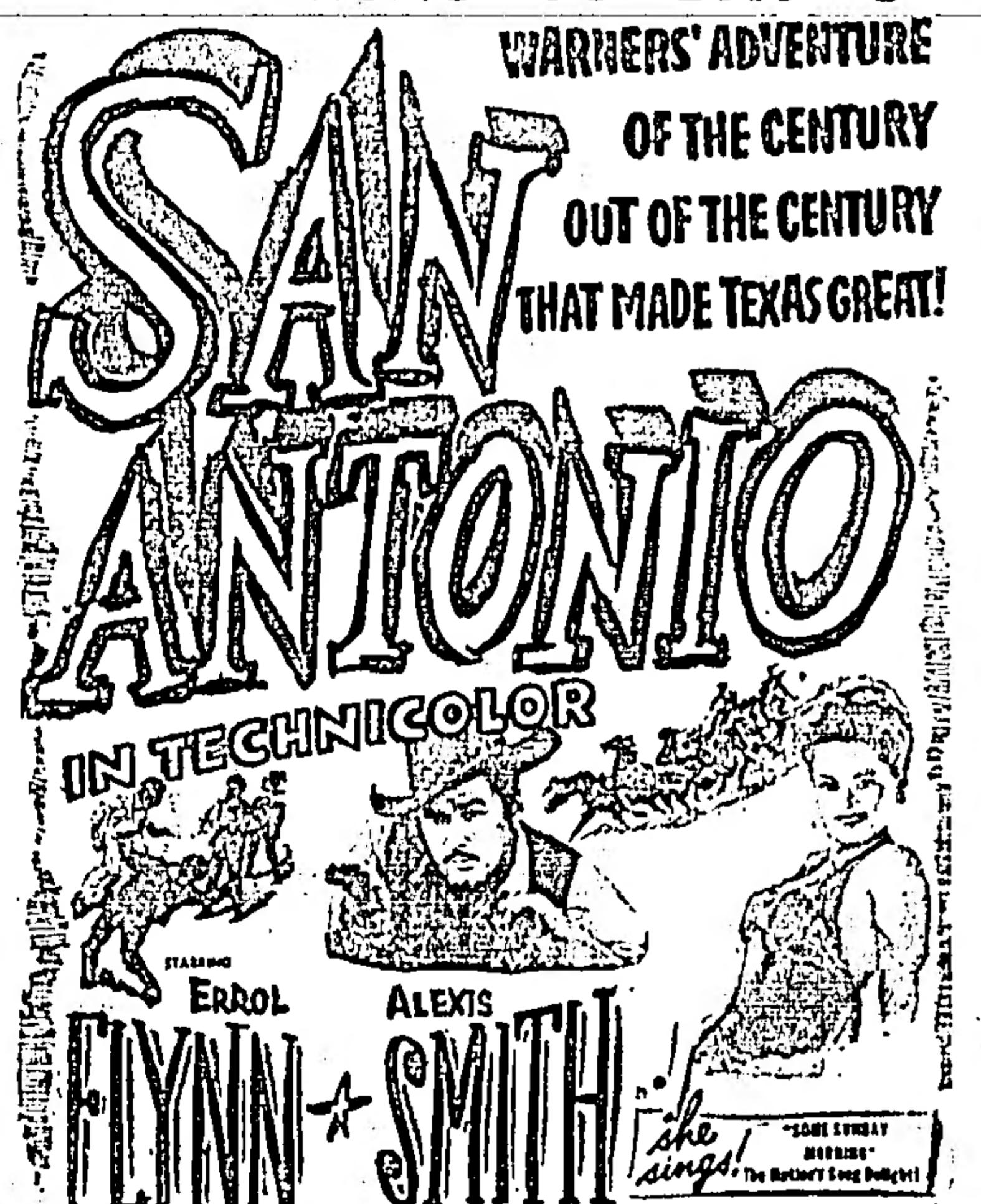
COME OUT FROM BEHIND THAT
BRUSH, BOYS... WE KNOW YA!
It's the LAUGHSPIECE of the
nation's top laugh-makers.
The Latest and Greatest
"Road" Show of Them All!

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

SHOWING
TO-DAY**QUEEN'S**at 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEATS IN ADVANCE
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!You'll find Adventure...
Romance... Excitement...
Action... Spectacle...

SHOWING TO-DAY

WARRIORS' ADVENTURE

OF THE CENTURY
OUT OF THE CENTURY
THAT MADE TEXAS GREAT!ROMANTIC ADVENTURE
RACING ACROSS
FORBIDDEN WARPATHS!

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS

JON HALL • MICHAEL O'SHEA



Politics and Personalities

— by —
"CROSS-BENCHER"

London, Feb. 1.
THE political flashpoint is Mr. Bevan's quarrel with the doctors.

This is likely to have repercussions far beyond the question of the National Health Service.

That is why Mr. Bevan fired his broadside against the plebsite now being taken. Knowing that the vote will go against him, he said it was being taken unfairly, before it even began.

What will happen then? Mr. Bevan will in due course report to the Cabinet that he cannot carry on his plans.

The Cabinet will ask him to compromise. Mr. Bevan is no compromiser. He will resign instead.

Then the Government's headaches really will begin.

Mr. Bevan, freed from the trammels of office, is just the focal point for which the malcontents are looking.

He and Mr. Dalton might even enter into an unholy alliance.

Mr. Bevan would have you believe that the doctors are defying the Act of Parliament.

This is not so. The Act permits them to join the service or not, according to their wish.

On the terms Mr. Bevan dictates they are quite reasonable in declining the offer.

But it is not the doctors who need worry. It is Mr. Attlee.

Farce . . . tragedy

THE Geneva tariff agreements should have provided the most important debate of this session.

Here was the chance to state the Empire case. It developed into a crazy gang performance with most speakers attacking their own side.

This was the inevitable result of the Opposition amendment which tried to ride two horses at once.

The Secretary for Overseas Trade, 40-year-old former L.M.S. railwayman Mr. A. G. Bottomley, read every word of his sermon. And read it dully and unconvincingly.

Mr. R. W. G. Mackay, Socialist M.P. for North-West Hull, made a penetrating analysis of the debate.

situation, and voted for neither side.

Mr. Norman Smith, Socialist M.P. for South Nottingham, voted against his leaders.

Mr. Peter Thorneycroft's chief quarrel with Imperial Preference was that it has been ardently championed by Lord Beaverbrook.

It was the tail end of the pantomime season.

Mr. Robert Boothby knew what he wanted and said it plainly. But the Empire found a champion in Mr. G. Odey, the new Tory M.P. for Howdenshire.

In an excellent maiden speech he alone had the courage to point out that the times called for increased, not reduced, Imperial Preferences.

Left and Right

I WROTE recently of the impending split between the Right and the Left in the Socialist Party.

I understand the first skirmish has taken place.

The Socialist executive has considered the positions of Mr. Zilliacus (Gateshead) for being too Left of the party line, and Mr. Alfred Edwards (Middlesbrough East) for being too Right of it.

Mr. Edwards is unconcerned. As a director of private enterprise founders he is too busy seeking new business in America to bother with such things.

Mr. Zilliacus may be called upon to defend himself.

If his defense is as long-winded and wordy as his speeches and letters to the Press, the executive will be asleep before it is half-way through.

3 men, 1-seat

THREE dismissed Ministers have occupied the same seat, at the end of the bench below the gangway in the third row, on three successive days.

But their attitudes are very different.

Mr. Dalton got there first. He believes it is only a temporary tenancy for him.

But he should not be too sure. The Government have gone from strength to strength since his departure.

ATTLEE'S

WOULD-BE REBELS

Then there was Mr. Bellenger, the forgotten man. Dismissed for no reason except that he had no private army to call upon when trouble came.

And finally, Mr. John Wilmot, former Minister of Supply. He looks as cheerful as a prosperous company director. And so he should. For that is what he is.

He is a director of Messrs. Arding and Hobbs, Ltd., and of Messrs. Boulton and Paul.

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In an excellent maiden speech he alone had the courage to point out that the times called for increased, not reduced, Imperial Preferences.

He takes his place among those who have no enemies.

More jobs

A board is going to be set up to manage the railway hotels, nationalised with the railways. This will make some jobs.

I prophecy that the chief job at £5,000 a year will go to Lord Inman, who always pops out of his obscurity when there's a good job going.

He will have two assistants at £2,500 a year each. Nice work.

Tailpiece

MR. Francis Williams, former publicity manager to the Prime Minister, now writes a "Labour Point of View" column for the Kensley Press. So he has turned Thurtle.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

O WING to the mess they made of their forms; the three Persians were asked to go to the Ministry of Bubble-blowing, where the following conversation took place.

Official: I'm afraid, gentlemen, these forms are no good.

Razumugh: Thus did we say, sir, when of reading them. No good, I said to Ashura. No good, quoth Razumugh, no good. Bad forms, we said, sir, ho yes. Then did Kazbulah—

Official: Excuse me—

Ashura: We excuse, sir. It is—

Official: One moment, please; these forms—

All three: Ho, ho, please; no good! We all say it, ho yes, you and us Persians. Forms no good.

Official: What exactly do you want? These forms—

Razumugh: We asked no forms, please. What, sir, do you want?

Official: Let's get this straight. I will give you some more forms.

All three (loudly): Please, no good! We all say forms bad, you and us Persians. We give you no forms; why, therefore, give you them to us? Forms no good, you say, ho yes, then why forms, please?

Official (grinding his teeth): Your forms are all wrong.

All three: Hear and hear! Ho yes, forms all wrong. Tear oop, say we to you, please.

(Conference adjourned.)

Old days in Ahahaland

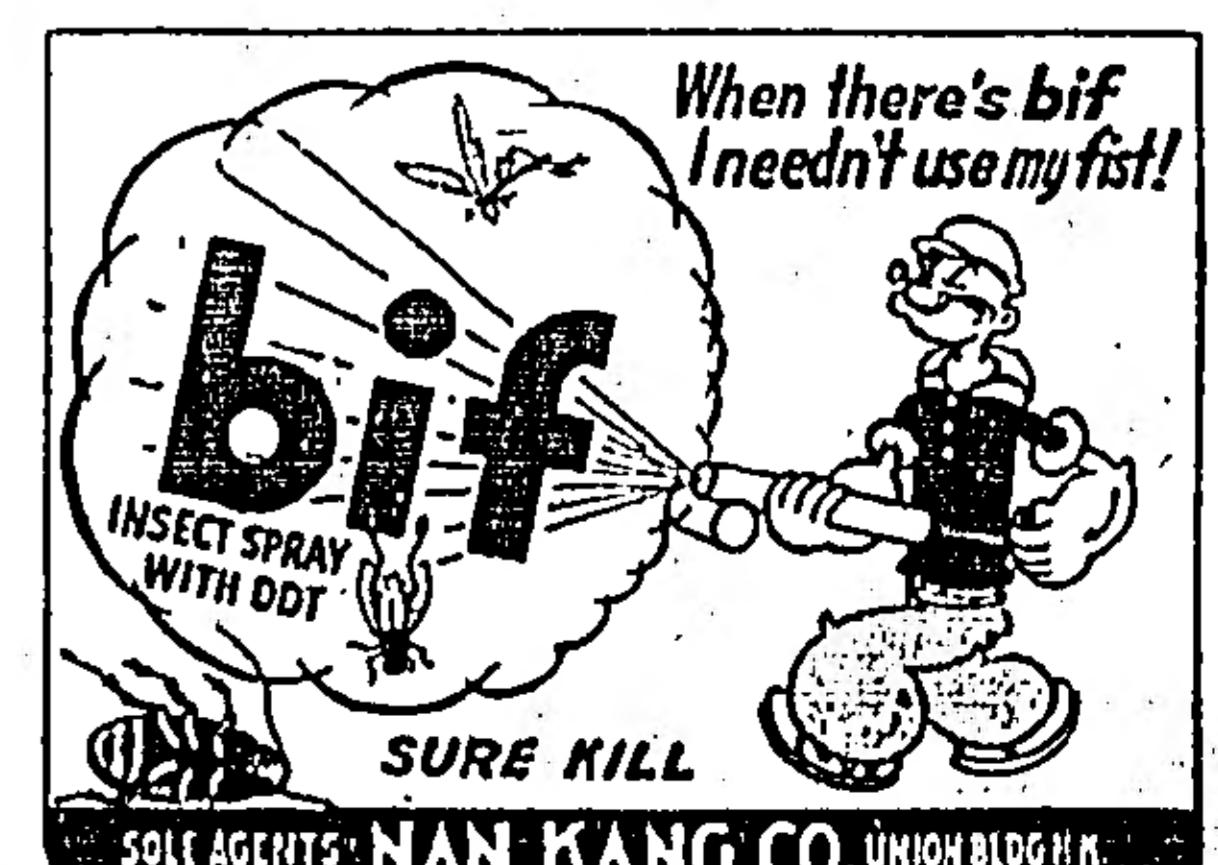
THE Moshangis are the chief enemies of their Ahahans, because they are their nearest neighbours. Their battles only end when their bulls have driven away all the cattle animals within fifty miles. Sheer hunger forces a retreat both sides. But the Moshangis are cunning. They either supply off animals a mile or two away, retreat quickly, gorge themselves, and return to surprise the Ahahans. But the Ahahans, too, are cunning. They have eaten so much before the campaign that their meat is quickly over, and it is the Moshangis who are surprised. But sometimes the Moshangis only pretend to have eaten too much, and are more alert than they seem. On those occasions the Ahahans pretend to have eaten too little and to be excessively weak. And so both sides are surprised when the fighting resumes.

Bernard Drew

NANCY Demanding Her Money's Worth



By Ernie Bushmiller



U.S.-SIAM MILITARY TALKS

Lausanne, Switzerland, Feb. 19.—A Siamese military mission will meet senior American officers for "important discussions" in Washington next month, a reliable Siamese source told the Associated Press today.

The mission will be headed by Major-General Luang Sura Narong, chief of the Siamese Army Intelligence Branch, who arrived in Lausanne this week for consultation with the Siamese King.

After the Washington conference, the mission will undertake similar discussions with Philippine Army officers in Manila, the source said. —Associated Press.

TRIPOLI CURFEW LIFTED

Tripoli, Feb. 19.—The curfew imposed in Tripoli on Tuesday, when British soldiers were called out to disperse Arabs demonstrating against the British military administration, was lifted today.

Fifty-two people, including the President of Kotla (the Arab Nationalist bloc), and its secretary, were arrested.

Conditions have returned to normal and the situation throughout Tripolitania was quiet. The state of emergency and the dusk-to-dawn curfew proclaimed after the disturbances was confined to Tripoli and not to the whole of the territory, as reported by an American news agency.

A British statement issued after the disturbances said that, in the course of a raid made on Tuesday morning on the headquarters of the Kotla Party, documents were found confirming reports of intimidation of sections of the Arab and Italian communities of Tripolitania in order to influence the evidence they might give to the four-power commission appointed to report on the former Italian colonies to the Foreign Minister's deputies.

"During the raid, a member of the Kotla Youth fired a shot at a British officer in the search party. Kotla supporters numbering 400 collected in the old city and moved towards the headquarters of the British military administration, and hysterically demonstrated against the arrest of their chief, Ali Fikri Hassan," the statement said. —Reuter.

Sport Around The World:

Gloucestershire Plans For Grace Centenary

Gloucester, Feb. 19.—Lt-Col. H. A. Henson, secretary of the Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, has announced the special arrangements being made to celebrate the centenary of the birth of W. G. Grace.

The game with Derbyshire at Bristol on July 14, 15 and 16 will be observed as the Centenary Match ("W.G." was born on July 18, 1848).

During the game the memorial plaque which is being erected at the main gate will be unveiled.

Also a souvenir brochure would be on sale, the proceeds for which would go to Tom Goddard's Benefit Fund.

It seems appropriate that the Grand Old Man of the present Gloucestershire XI should benefit from the tribute paid to the "G.O.M." of cricket of all time," said Colonel Henson.

Colonel Henson also announced that the county ground at Bristol would be renamed "Grace's Ground" if there was sufficient evidence of public approval to the change.

The chairman and committee of Gloucestershire supported the change in name and considered that it would be appropriate as the site was selected by W. G. Grace himself, and the ground was laid out under his personal supervision. —Reuter.

LOUIS-WALCOTT ROW

New York, Feb. 19.—Jersey Joe Walcott was today given an ultimatum by Joe Louis to sign up for the return world heavyweight contest "in two weeks or lose the fight."

Louis made this ultimatum after a new batch had developed in the negotiations for the fight, because Walcott has been asked for an undertaking that he will fight Louis for a third time, if the champion is beaten in the June encounter.

In the proposed contract for this third meeting, each contestant would receive 30 percent of the net takings. Walcott objected on the ground that he would have to fight three times before he could "get a champion's share of the gate."

Louis said that if Walcott does not sign for the return bout within two weeks, he will fight somebody else, "preferably" Gass Lesnevich, world light-heavyweight champion.

In reply to this, Walcott said: "If Louis thinks that he can put over Lesnevich or anybody else as a challenger, and draw a \$1,000,000

Nehru Cabinet May Topple

BY ROBERT MILLER

Bombay, Feb. 19.—India without the frail but steady hand of Mahatma Gandhi faces a possible government crisis which may result in the resignation of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister, and Sardar V. Patel, Home Minister.

SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS IN IRAQ

London, Feb. 19.—Attempts have been made to destroy the main water pipes and electrical lines belonging to the British authorities at the British air base of Shindah, according to reports from Basra published by Baghdad newspapers.

The reports added that the Iraqi Governor of Basra province issued a communiqué that these installations belong to the Iraqi Government and any person destroying them will be arrested and severely punished.

Meanwhile, the political situation in Iraq remains unsettled. The popular movement is still pressing hard for realisation of demands which include the dissolution of parliament, solving of the bread and economic problems, while putting in state machinery to eliminate all elements of old political cliques and complete curbing of British influence over internal affairs.

Kurdish demonstrators representing the northern district, demonstrated in Baghdad on Wednesday, carrying slogans for the release of all Barzani tribesmen and their leaders gaoled since the Mulla Mustapha Barzani revolt.

Baghdad newspapers unanimously describe the present period as a "decisive test between popular power which is insisting on asserting its place and the clique of old politicians supported by British influence and a feudal system." —Associated Press.

Parliament Dissolved

Baghdad, Feb. 19.—The first Government tonight decided to dissolve Parliament "because it does not represent the nation and was illegally elected."

The Premier Syid Mohammed Al-Sadr, and the Minister of Defence, Arshad Umari, left tonight for Sarsak, in the northern mountain area, where the Regent is now on holiday, to seek his final approval.

The decision to dissolve Parliament was taken after a six-hour meeting, and it follows the recent political tension since the resignation of the former Premier, Saleh Jibril, after Iraq's rejection of the recently signed treaty with Britain.

RUGBY REPLAY

London, Feb. 19.—The Rugby League Cup first round second leg replay result is as follows:

MCC 269 FOR FOUR

Georgetown, British Guiana, Feb. 19.—The MCC had scored 269 for four wickets, by the close of play on the first day of their four-day match against British Guiana.

gate, let him go ahead and try it. He ought to be thankful that he still has the title after I beat him in December!"

Felix Bochicchio, New Jersey promoter, who holds all rights to Walcott's appearances, said: "I don't see Louis can fight anybody else but Walcott. Louis has to beat Walcott before he can take on anybody, or the public will think he is scared." —Reuter.

INDIA

India today is a government of experiments, some of which are working and others are proving costly, useless luxuries. Prohibition probably will be universally applied to all India by the year's end. Already there are "dry days," and 100 percent liquor taxes are predicted.

Strikes by young organisations feeling their oats have handicapped the country, and the 45-day work stoppage of the Bombay Port trust set up badly-needed imports and exports for a month and a half before stubborn elements on both sides finally compromised.

There is a serious inflation in India, and prices of foodstuffs and commodities have crept upwards week after week. Eggs, meat and poultry are the latest examples of the price increases. Housewives complained that costs are twice as much as a year ago.

India's two throbbling political headaches are Kashmir and Hyderabad, either of which could easily bring India and Pakistan to war if either thought itself strong enough to fight. Land-locked Hyderabad continues to refuse pleas to abandon independence and join the Indian government.

CHINA

Although no official action has been taken by Hyderabad and its Nizam, there are reports of acute shortages of gasoline, oil and important imported commodities which must be shipped through India but which never seem to arrive at the Hyderabad destinations. Complaints to the Indian Government fall on sympathetic but deaf ears and result in loud denials that any sort of economic pressure is being applied to force Hyderabad into changing its mind.

Indians from every walk of life admit their country is faced with many problems and big ones, but all are optimistic about solving them and proudly point to the nation's accomplishments since August 15 when it seemed that only a miracle could prevent continued chaos and anarchism.

A prominent publisher explained it this way: "Certainly we have a tough row. And things are going to be worse probably before they get better, and we do not have experience. We are going to make plenty of mistakes but, never forget, we are learning everything we err and everything we do we are doing for ourselves it is our government and our country now, not Britain's." —United Press.

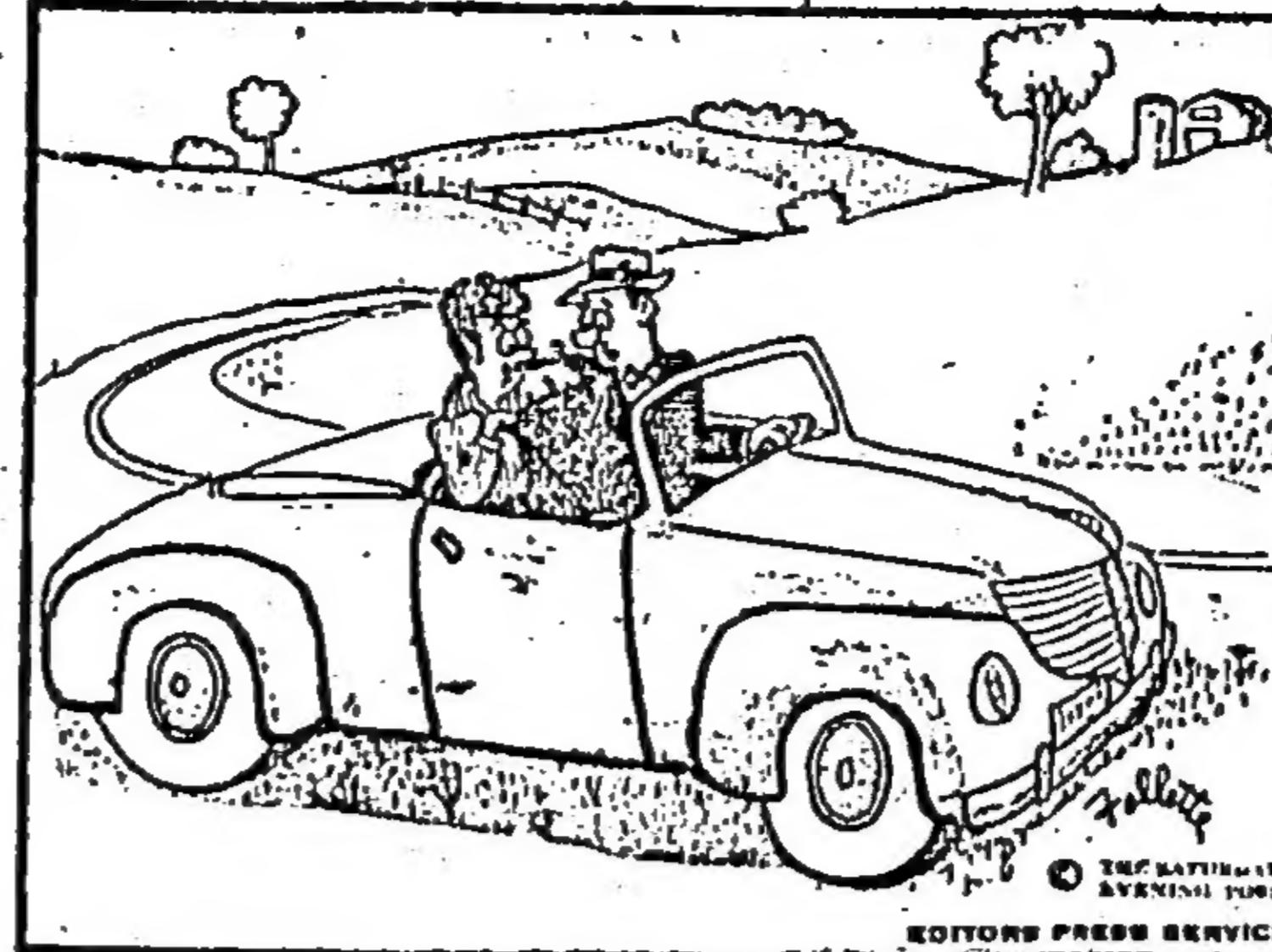
CHINA

Shanghai, Feb. 20.—Forty Chinese military police, all veterans of the Burma campaign and speaking both English and Japanese will leave for Japan today aboard the China Merchants steamer Haikang.

They will be the first Chinese armed forces to set foot on Japanese soil, and will do guard duties at Chinese establishments.

On board the same vessel will be 13 released Japanese war prisoners, 20 Japanese repatriates and two members of the Chinese Mission to Japan.

The 10,000-ton vessel will also take to Japan 500 tons of raw powder and other raw materials forming part of the Central Trust's export cargoes to Japan. —Reuter.



"Why, what a coincidence! It just so happens that I've got a gallon tin of petrol in my purse."

Indonesian Leaders' Defence At Trial

Batavia, Feb. 19.—A claim that the sovereign government of the Republic of Indonesia had ceased to exist since the signing of the Linggadjati and Renville agreements with the Dutch was made by the defence today when the trial of 17 Indonesian revolutionary leaders began before a military high court at Jogjakarta, the Republican headquarters.

Nepal's First Envoy To U.S. At White House

Washington, Feb. 19.—General Kaisher Sham Shere Jung Bahadur Rama, the Nepalese Ambassador to Great Britain and Minister to the United States, called at the White House today to present his letters of credence to President Truman.

Explaining the somewhat unusual arrangement of one man being a diplomatic representative to two countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean, Rama said:

"To Nepal, Britain and the United States are largely one and the same thing. We regard Great Britain and the United States as one great Anglo-Saxon hegemony."

He said he would return to London and come back to the United States just as often as his diplomatic rationing.

Lincoln's Injunction

Presenting his credentials, Rama recalled that he last visited the United States in 1939 and remembered taking heart and hope from the inscription on the wall of the Lincoln Memorial: "Freedom shall not perish from this earth."

President Roosevelt, of "imperishable memory," had succeeded in doing more than Lincoln's injunction and had laid the world under a debt of endless and immense gratitude, "proving to the world that the American is as good as his word, if not better," he said.

The Minister said that a diplomat was sometimes described as an honest man sent abroad to his good of his country.

"In these days of growing global consciousness, I prefer to believe that an envoy is sent abroad to speak the truth, cost what it may, for the good of the globe."

Close Comradeship

"It will be my humble endeavour and particular care to promote between the United States and Nepal the mutual understanding and goodwill which arose out of close comradeship in many hard fought battles while defending the common frontiers of human liberty in lands other than our own."

President Truman expressed pleasure at the appointment of the Minister as the first Nepalese envoy to the United States.

"Your reputation for service to your country in both war and peace, and for your accomplishments as a representative of your Government in foreign capitals, has preceded your arrival in this country," President Truman said. —Reuter.

United Europe Plan Favoured

Washington, Feb. 19.—A proposal made by a Democratic member in the House Foreign Affairs Committee today that Congress should formally support Mr Ernest Bevin's plan for a united Europe.

The member, Mr. Boggs, urged that a clause be written into the preamble of the foreign aid bill saying: "Congress would look with favour upon a federation of the participating nations." —Reuter.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. By examining their scales. Each scale shows growth rings similar to those of a tree. 2. No. 3. Wool, hair and fur pressed together. 4. At Baku, Russian port on the Caspian Sea, more than 2,500 years ago. 5. 45 to 50 percent. 6. The atlas, a pointed piece of metal, bone or ivory used to imprint letters on tablets covered with wax.

Correction

It has been pointed out to us that the Telegraph's "Check Your Knowledge" on Wednesday was wrong in giving "The Maple Leaf For Ever" as Canada's National Anthem. The anthem is "O Canada."

Killing Of Partisans Not A War Crime

Nuremberg, Feb. 19.—Eight senior officers of the German Army who fought in the Balkans during the war were found guilty and two were acquitted here today by the American War Crimes Tribunal, which, however, held that the killing of captured members of "illegal partisan bands" was not a war crime.

Among those found guilty was Field Marshal Wilhelm List, who was accused of killing Jews and partisans in reprisals. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

General Walter Kuntze, found guilty of shooting hostages, was also sentenced to life imprisonment.

The judgment, delivered by Judge Charles Frederick Wennerstrum, president of the Tribunal, said that Balkan partisans could not be "generally regarded as qualified for belligerent status under International law."

Franc Tiroirs

Members of these bands, in effect "franc tiroirs," had no right to be treated as prisoners of war.

The judgment also stated that the shooting of hostages was not in itself contrary to existing international law if used as a "last resort" by the occupying power in the defense of public order.

But excessive and inhuman application of this measure could constitute a crime.

In Washington, General Eisenhower declined to comment today on the ruling that shooting of captured partisans is not necessarily a war crime.

Generals To Appeal

He was asked for his views, as he declared in July 1944 that those guilty of shooting captured members of the French Forces of the Interior would be brought to justice.

The General does not want to say anything on that at present," his aide said.

All eight German generals sentenced to prison terms will appeal to General Lucius D. Clay, the American Commander in Germany, the Supreme Military Tribunal in Washington and to the Supreme Court of the United States, counsel for Colonel General Lothar Rennert announced after the findings were made known. —Reuter.

OUTWARD MAIRS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcels posted close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mail close before 10 a.m., registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. previous day.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Closing Times By Air

Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi,

Bahrain, Cairo (Natal), Johannesburg,

Marseilles via Ceylon, Amoy, and

London (Kowloon C.P.O.) 3 p.m. (GPO)

3.30 p.m.

Saigon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.

Holloway, 3.30 p.m.

Nanking, Hankow, Taiping, Canton, and Chungking, 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Swatow, Amoy and Foochow (Sea) 2 p.m.

Macau, Tientsin, Nanking (Sea) 2 p.m.

U.S.A., Central & South America via San Francisco (Sea) 3 p.m.

Japan (Ordinary letters and cards only)

Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.

Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.

Macao, Tsinan & Shekki (Sea) 4 p.m.

Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

Saturday, February 21